

September 9, 1999 2681 '99 SEP 14 P2:12

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Docket Numbers: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-0197

Dear Sirs:

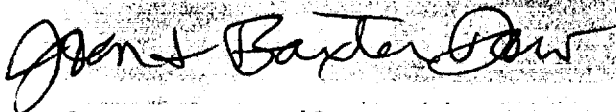
The FDA has jurisdiction to ban farm practices that injure human health, such as forced molting. The FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting. This petition should now be granted -- please, no more delays.

There is a link between cruelty and contamination. Putting bacteria warning labels on egg cartons and regulating egg refrigeration temperatures are not enough. FDA must ban the forced molting of laying hens because forced molting is a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and consumers of eggs. It has been shown scientifically to promote disease by destroying the starving hens' immune systems.

For us, personally, the main concern is the unutterable cruelty of such a practice. No animal should be subjected to such extended starvation. Until such time as egg production becomes more humane, we simply boycott the product. We never purchase eggs.

You have the power to do some good here, to decrease the amount of suffering in the world. Please do so.


Thank you,



The Dow Family
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96P-0418

C571

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20852/0001 

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

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